The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The thing done avails and not what is said about it.—Emerson.

WHOLE NO. 1083. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 21, NO. 44.

Green Firmly Opposes All Pay Reductions For Federal Employes

Salaries Are Modest—Reducing Buying Power of Masses Increases Unemployment and Prevents Return of Prosperity

Washington, Jan. 9.—Uncompromising opposition to the movement started by certain members of the Congress to reduce the pay of Government employes was expressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter to Chairman John J. Cochran of the House of Representatives Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

Mr. Green said that present salaries and wages of Government employes are not above the requirements imposed by decent and comfortable living standards.

He declared the proposed pay cuts would not only increase unemployment by reducing the purchasing power of the army of Government employes, but would also set a "vicious and most depressing example" for private industry.

Green's Letter to Cochran

The text of President Green's letter to Chairman Cochran follows:

"I will appreciate it very much if you will present to the associated members of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments at the meeting of the Committee which is called for the purpose of considering proposed legislation providing for a reduction in the salary paid Government employes, the viewpoint of the American Federation of Labor in opposition to this proposed legislation.

"I would enjoy very much the privilege of appearing in person to present the opposition of the American Federation of Labor to any and all attempts being made to reduce the salaries of Government employes.

"I understand that because the committee decided to hear only those who propose salary reduction legislation at the meeting which will be held tomorrow, that no opportunity would be extended to those who may oppose this character of legislation.

"For this reason I ask the privilege of presenting my views in writing with the sincere and earnest request that you as Chairman present the same to the members of the committee.

A. F. of L. Opposes Salary Cut

"The American Federation of Labor is uncompromisingly opposed to any and all attempts which are being made to force a reduction in the salary of Federal employes.

"This opinion and this attitude of the American Federation of Labor are based upon the following reasons:

Reduced Buying Power Prolongs Depression

"First: We are convinced that a return of prosperity can not be brought about through a persistent and constant reduction in the purchasing power of the masses of the people.

"The whole Nation is suffering from unemployment because of a lack of buying power upon the part of those who consume and use manufactured products.

"If we are unable to find a market for goods now because people can not buy, how are we to enlarge and increase that market through a further depreciation in the curtailed and limited buying power of the consuming market which exists at the present time?

Increased Buying Power Restores Prosperity

"What we need to do is increase the buying power of the people, enlarge the market, extend the use and consumption of goods rather than to impair it, limit it or curtail it through reductions in wages and salaries.

"We can conceive of no greater blow which could be struck at a return of longed-for prosperity than the imposition through legislative enactment at this session of Congress of a reduction in salaries upon Government employes.

Vicious Example for Private Industry

"Second: A vicious and most depressing example would be set for private industry if the Government which is a large employer of labor, would force a reduction in wages.

"How could the members of Congress and the executive and administrative officers of the Government carry out and sustain the announced policy of the administration to maintain existing wage standards if the Government forces Federal employes to accept reductions in salaries?

"Such a policy of false economy is inconceivable.

"The officers and members of the American Federation of Labor can not believe that the Congress of the United States will resort to such an indefensible policy providing for a reduction in the salaries of Federal employes at a time when so many patriotic and unselfish men and women are doing all that lies within their power to bring about a return of stable prosperity.

Salaries Are Modest

"Third: The Members of Congress should be constantly reminded that the salaries paid Federal employes are very modest and scarcely none is in excess of the budget requirements necessary for the maintenance of a family in decency and comfort.

Low Wages During War

"When many workers in private industry shared in the increases in wages which were paid during the war period, and subsequent thereto, the Government employes were not so fortunate.

"Their salaries were stabilized and in a very large way remained static.

"If they did not participate in a full measure in the increased wages which were paid during the war period when the cost of living was increased in a most substantial way, why should they now be compelled to accept a reduction in salary and wages as great or greater than some large corporations have imposed upon employes engaged in private industry?

"For these special reasons and for other convincing reasons which could be properly assigned, the American Federation of Labor most earnestly and sincerely submits its protest to you and the honorable members of your committee, against any and all legislative proposals which provide for a reduction in the salary and wages paid Government employes."

Jobs, Not Wage Reductions, Asked By Three Church Organizations

Federal Unemployment Relief Needed—Social Injustice Challenged—Just Wealth Distribution Urged.

Employment instead of wage cutting is the cure for unemployment.

This is the outstanding declaration of a joint statement made by the Social Service Commission of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the Department of Social Action of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, and the Social Justice Commission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Social Injustice Challenged

The statement said in part:

"The very assistance of church forces in immediate relief measures makes increasingly imperative their moral duty to challenge the social injustices which have made relief necessary.

Federal Relief Imperative

"We must recognize that the community relief plans as at present proposed, or even supplementary Federal appropriations which it seems to us will be needed to meet the problem of unemployment, are in effect nothing but a temporary dole—a palliative, not a solution. Such relief is in fact grossly inadequate to prevent tragic demoralization of individual and family life.

Jobs for the Jobless

"Employment is the only cure for unemployment. Yet the bald fact remains that regardless of whatever improvement may occur in general business conditions we are entering the third Winter of severe unemployment without seeing put into actual operation any statesmanlike or constructive program to provide work for any but a small minority of the idle.

Public Works Construction

"We believe that immediate and adequate appropriations should be made available by national as well as local governments or such needed and useful public works as road construction, development of parks, elimination of grade crossings, flood control projects, reforestation and the clearing of slum areas in our cities.

"If such a governmental program be undertaken now we will face the months that lie ahead with prospects of work for a large number of the unemployed and consequently increased purchasing power which will stimulate all business. The economic wisdom of this proposal has been attested by leading economists.

Short Work Week Commended

"We note with satisfaction the tendency to institute a shorter work day and week without reduction in wages in the effort to solve the problem of technological unemployment."

Wage Cuts Opposed

"We affirm our belief in the necessity of a more equitable distribution of wealth and income which would increase purchasing power and tend to balance production and consumption.

"We, therefore, particularly deplore indiscriminate wage cuts at this time as socially unjust and tending to intensify bitterness and industrial unrest, and still further to lower the purchasing power of the masses."

Unemployment Is National Emergency

"Unemployment is so devastating in its physical, mental and moral consequences that the present conditions constitute to our mind a national and international emergency which calls for courageous social action and the adoption of heroic measures adequate to the gravity of the situation."

The joint statement also favored social insurance, including unemployment insurance, and national and international economic planning. "Participation of labor," it said, "through representatives of their own choosing and an equitable distribution of wealth and income should be incorporated in any form of national planning and control."

GOVERNMENT MUST AID JOBLESS, PINCHOT SAYS

1,000,000 Idle in Pennsylvania; Hunger Is Causing Malnutrition—Urges Taxing the Rich.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania told the Senate Subcommittee on Manufactures that the problem of unemployment is a national emergency calling for national legislation. The problem of relief, he said, cannot and ought not to be met without Federal aid.

The Committee was considering bills sponsored by Senators Robert M. La Follette of Wisconsin and Edward P. Costigan of Colorado providing liberal Government aid for the jobless.

1,000,000 Out of Work

Governor Pinchot stated that according to data compiled by a committee of experts there are around 1,000,000 employable persons without jobs in Pennsylvania, which is over 25 per cent of the total employable population.

He said he urged the recent special session of the Pennsylvania Legislature to appropriate $120,000,000 for relief of the jobless and their dependents, but that the legislature appropriated but $19,000,000, nearly all of which he claimed is unconstitutional and "utterly insufficient to meet the needs of the situation."

Women Without Shoes

Governor Pinchot pointed out that Pennsylvania has one-twelfth of the population of the United States and one-sixth of the unemployed and that the situation is exceedingly bad. In the soft coal fields, he said, suffering has been intense for years, but it is worse now, with women going without shoes and children unable to go to school.

Hunger Causes Malnutrition

"All around the State people are hungry and in trouble," he continued. "It is not only that we must not let people suffer, but children are going hungry in a way that is cramping their development." He called attention to reports from the State health officers of a State-wide increase in malnutrition and also in disease and in the mortality rate.

Health Impaired

"There has been a general impression that the health of the Nation has not been impaired by the depression," said Mr. Pinchot. "That is not the case in Pennsylvania. We are in trouble all the way along the line. We should make provision to prevent the State from suffering in years to come from what is going on now." He emphasized the "falling morale" and the "intense suffering."

Hoover-Gifford Plan Condemned

"Mr. Pinchot described the "Hoover-Gifford plan to raise money through community chests" as being "vicious for several reasons." He declared that it "takes money from the little fellows" and has "spared the big fellows." He asserted that "one of the main reasons for the Gifford form of relief is that it is an attempt to get by without increasing the income tax and, therefore, without the big fellow carrying his share of the load."

Tax the Rich

The Pennsylvania Governor expressed the belief that it is essential in the present emergency that money be taken not from those who are the greatest consumers but rather from those who consume the least, namely, the very rich.

"The sum of it all is, no amount of money in any way comparable to the need is being made available anywhere in Pennsylvania," he stated. "Every county has some unemployment problem.

Federal Aid Necessary

"The problem cannot be met without Federal aid," Mr. Pinchot concluded. "It ought not to be made without Federal aid."

He said the bills before the committee providing Federal aid should be broad enough to meet the situation in States where the legislatures are not in session or where there are State constitutional limitations.

GERMAN INDUSTRY PUT UNDER STATE CONTROL

Bruening's Wages and Interest Cuts and Two-Year Moratorium on Private Debts.

Berlin, Germany, Jan. 9.—Chancellor Bruening's emergency decree practically suspended, temporarily, the capitalist system in Germany. The decree substituted arbitrary state regulation of business for the machinery and practices governing private initiative, which have been thrown out of gear by the business depression and reparations payments.

State Interference Justified

The Government regards the interference with private business as a necessity imposed by the turn of events last summer when the withdrawal of foreign credits in the course of world deflation threatened to lead to a collapse of business.

The budget requirements of the Government led to an increase in the turnover tax of 1.15 per cent. This raise increased taxes to such an extent that a number of measures for lowering the cost of production and living became imperative.

Wages and Purchasing Power Fixed

The Government's object is to fix wages and purchasing power, maintain incomes, and compensate business men for turnover tax payments by reducing railway and interest rates. Compensating new burdens by advantages, the decree would leave German business in essentially the same position but on a reduced price and wage level, which it is hoped will remove some of the obstacles to foreign competition.

10 Per Cent Wage Cut

Wages and salaries in the civil service and private industry were reduced 10 per cent on January 1. It is believed that some compensation for this reduction will be afforded automatically under the provision that by January 1 all syndicated prices must likewise be reduced 10 per cent below the level of June 20. This includes prices of iron, chemicals, building materials, coal and potash.

A price commissioner with dictatorial authority has been appointed. His duty will be to watch prices and eventually to impose additional rules.

Interest Rates Lowered

The decree also relieves industry of some of its interest charges. The interest on 8 per cent bonds is reduced to 6 per cent, excepting those representing foreign loans to Germany.

In the case of domestic interest at a higher rate than 8 per cent the rate is reduced from 25 to 50 per cent.

At the same time a moratorium for the repayment of principals has been decreed until December 31, 1933.

Lewis Asks Federal Aid for Unemployed; 240,000 Jobless Miners Are in Distress

Washington, Jan. 9.—An urgent appeal for direct Federal appropriation for unemployment relief was made by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, in the hearings held by the Senate Subcommittee on Manufactures on the jobless relief bills sponsored by Senators Robert M. La Follette and Edward P. Costigan.

240,000 Jobless Miners

Mr. Lewis declared that over 240,000 unemployed bituminous coal miners, with 960,000 family dependents, are living in dire distress because of unemployment, and claimed their want and destitution are entirely beyond the organized local charities working in co-operation with President Hoover's Organization for Unemployment Relief, whose chairman is Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Senator La Follette's bill asks an appropriation of $250,000,000 for immediate unemployment relief. Senator Costigan's bill asks $250,000,000 for immediate relief and $250,000,000 for relief from July 1, 1932, to June 30, 1933.

Community Chests Do Not Aid Miners

In describing the deplorable condition of the jobless bituminous coal miners, Mr. Lewis said:

"These are the men, women and children of the coal mining fields whose occupation has removed their lives from those municipal centers where the present organized machinery of charity operates.

"To a large extent these miners and their families are colonized in mining communities removed from the industrial centers where community chests have been provided, remote from the eyes of those fortunate citizens whose hearts are touched in the presence of destitution, and beyond any hope of relief from local appropriations.

Destitution Increased

"In the bituminous fields this is especially true.

"The disorder of the bituminous coal industry with its cut-throat competition out of which labor rather than coal is sold, with its part-time employment and diminishing wage, is known to many of you Senators from congressional and personal investigations. In good times, as in bad, this unhealthy condition has borne heavily upon the lives of these mining communities.

"But the financial depression of the last two years has reduced the working time of the mines, lowered the already pauperized wage of the worker, added to the enforced idle of this group, and increased their wretchedness.

"By this irony of things the open Winter, with its reduced demand for coal, relieves the charitable exigencies of the large communities but increases the destitution in these mining villages."

Mr. Lewis pointed out that the depression has also drastically decreased coal consumption from 534,000,000 tons in 1929 to 360,943,000 tons in 1931.

Miners Decrease, Output Increases

"In the past few years," he went on, "the number of men employed in the bituminous coal industry decreased 30 per cent, while the per man day production increased 20 per cent. The decrease in round numbers approximates a reduction of 240,000 miners.

American Living Standard Destroyed

"The working time in the bituminous coal industry is inadequate to provide an American standard of living even at the highest prevailing wages paid.

"For example, in 1930, Illinois miners worked only an average of 156 days; Indiana, 157 days; Iowa, 155 days; Kentucky, 187 days; West Virginia, 204 days; Pennsylvania, 198 days, and the average for all coal mining States was only 187 days.

Work Time Cut to Help Jobless

"However, the average number of days worked, as given in the above figures, overstate the actual working time of bituminous coal miners, because the industry has endeavored to absorb by a divison of work the more than 240,000 surplus men who have been thrown jobless upon the mining communities by reason of the concentration of production at fewer mines and the increased per man day production, caused largely through the introduction of machinery together with the decreased demand for coal.

Three-Day Week

"The average weekly running time of the most advantageously located bituminous coal mines for several years past has only approximated three days per week.

"Miners holding jobs in these mines have been dividing their working time with their more unfortunate fellow miners, and the result has been that from 8 to 12 days per month have constituted the average pay roll.

"Wage rates run all the way from $1.50 a day in the isolated non-union fields to $6.00 per day in the union fields.

Machinery Lowers Wages

"Mechanization of mines has merely intensified competition, lowered wage rates and returned no profit whatsoever to coal companies. The United States Internal Revenue Department reports that the bituminous coal industry as a whole lost $27,000,000 in 1928, and during 1929, the peak year of prosperity, $14,000,000. The billions invested in bituminous coal mines have gone penniless for years, while the miners have been pushed down to the lower levels of pauperization.

Mining Communities Impoverished

"Many mining communities, located in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana and other States, are from the standpoint of self help literally flat on their backs scarcely able to raise the bare necessities for the sustenance of life.

240,000 Jobless Bituminous Miners

"Approximately 175,000 of the 240,000 distressed bituminous coal miners are located within six States and are isolated in regions where coal mining is practically the only industrial enterprise.

"Merchants are bankrupt. Banks are closed. Schools are without operating funds, and even once considered wealthy residents, by reason of their holdings of coal securities, are in almost as dire want as are the coal miners.

Impossible to Collect Taxes

"The coal mining municipalities and townships cannot collect taxes and have exhausted their credit, and therefore cannot provide poor relief.

"Coal properties will not bring even 10 cents on the dollar and whatever benevolence these 175,000 men, their dependents and the population of the mining communities are to receive must come from outside sources.

"In Pennsylvania alone approximately 60,000 coal miners are in dire want, 30,000 in Illinois, 10,000 in Indiana, 20,000 in Ohio, 20,000 in Kentucky, 30,000 in West Virginia. The remainder are scattered in coal producing States East, West, North and South.

More Than Million Destitute

"The figures I have given represent a destitute population of more than one million two hundred thousand souls.

"They live among neighbors but little better off than themselves.

"They constitute a group whose labor is essential to the conduct of our business and the comfort of our lives. They are a courageous group; the hazards of their occupation testify to this.

World War Veterans

"In the World War the United Mine Workers of America had the honor of carrying the largest Service Flag, with 54,000 stars emblazoned on it. They are as loyal as they are courageous.

"These destitute ones hardly know when they may eat their next meal.

"In many of the camps children are still going barefoot, and yet in the midst of this misery and distress they are repelling the propaganda of communism and syndicalism with a singular devotion to our government and social institutions."

Red Cross Assistance

"Is the Red Cross doing anything substantial to assist the miners?" asked Senator Costigan.

"I do not know," Mr. Lewis replied, "that the American Red Cross has put a single silver dollar into the mouths of the hungry miner or his babies. I say that, with regret, because the United Mine Workers of America have contributed, in days gone by, scores of millions of dollars to the Red Cross.

Miners Gave Millions to Red Cross

"Before the war, during the war and during the post-war period, drives of the American Red Cross, the contributions of the United Mine Workers of America throughout the mining camps were discounted in advance as being 100 per cent of the quota allotment, and scores of millions were poured into the treasury of that great mother organization."

Excuse for Not Helping Miners

"What excuse do they give for not donating to the miners or giving anything to the miners?" asked Senator Wheeler.

"They say that in substance they can only contribute when one of four things happens," Lewis replied. "There must be a fire of great proportions, devasting to human life and property, or a flood, or a pestilence, or war. These seem to be the only things that can happen in this country of ours that will inspire the officials and directing heads of the American Red Cross to make a contribution to the relief of humanity, and they ascribe these things to an act of Providence.

Mothers and Babies Get No Relief

"It seemingly makes no difference how many people may die as the result of starvation, how many babies may become victims of children's diseases because their resistance is lowered through malnutrition, how many women may gradually have their strength lessened by the hardships and vicissitudes of their existence, due to improper housing and food conditions—if it is not caused by war, flood, fire, or famine, the American Red Cross will not intervene.

"If the United Mine Workers of America had back today some of the scores of millions they have contributed to the American Red Cross they would be in an infinitely better position and there would be many less hungry mouths among the babies of our people."

Federal Relief Necessary

"I speak not only for the members of our union," Mr. Lewis concluded, "but for nonunion miners. They seem to have no other spokesman. My plea is that in this outpouring of national benevolence, the mining communities shall not be forgotten; that something be done to clothe and feed the destitute of the mining camps; and that provision be made whereby this relief is assured to them through Federal agents charged with the distribution of food and clothing in this 'no man's land' of charity.

"I wish to emphasize this point that whatever relief Congress intends for this worthy class, must, to prove efficient, be administered by a special agency in touch and familiar with the mining communities."

BIRTHRIGHT ASKS 5-DAY WEEK AND HIGH WAGES

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 9.—The five-day week and restoration of prosperity by higher wages were stressed by W. C. Birthright, secretary-treasurer of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union, in an address before the Chattanooga Trades and Labor Council.

He also paid a tribute to the officials of Organized Labor for their work in forwarding the interests of the working people.

"I want you to know," Birthright said, "that President Green of the American Federation of Labor and his associates on the executive council and the officers of the various international unions are doing everything in their power to aid our government in the restoration of the purchasing power of our people.

Five-Day Week

"Although there are many plans that have not received the consideration by our government that they are entitled to receive, we are encouraged by the fact that many industries have adopted the policy of the five-day week and the shorter workday.

"These men are convinced that if the government would step into the situation and approve the idea of the five-day week and the shorter workday to the industries of America that through the influence brought by our government we would be able to bring about a condition that would give much relief.

Restore Mass Buying Power

"Prosperity is entirely based on restoring the purchasing power and to restore that purchasing power men must work at a saving wage, and under our lopsided economic condition of mass production it necessitates the five-day week and not more than seven hours a day to return millions of these men to work, so that progress may come."

VIOLATION OF UTAH'S 8-HOUR LAW CHARGED

Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 9.—The Utah State Industrial Commission charged three Utah employers with violating the State eight-hour law.

In a letter to the Emporium, Inc., an Ogden department store, the Commission wrote:

"Our labor inspector informs us that you have been a persistent violator of our eight-hour law and we have from time to time received numerous complaints regarding the matter. We will not tolerate any farther violation of this law."

The Commission acted on reports by Lottie Shupe, labor inspector, who inspected time cards of the Emporium and found violations ranging from one to three hours a day. The girls said they were expected to take care of the business in their departments, and if they did not the firm would hire girls who would. Therefore they worked late to hold their jobs.

The Commission also informed the Murray City corporation that it is violating the eight-hour law in its power plant.

Over 8,000,000 Unemployed in U. S., Declares President of A. F. of L.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Over eight million workers are jobless in the United States, according to the monthly unemployment report by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

This is a larger number of unemployed, he said, than we have ever before had in our history.

Mr. Green declared that including the families of the jobless there are at least 20,000,000 destitute persons who must be supported.

Disease and death due to unemployment, he said, lurk in millions of homes, and the children of the unemployed are slowly starving.

He declared that shorter hours and Federal relief are imperative to meet the national crisis which equals that of the World War.

The text of President Green's statement follows:

"Trade union reports for December show considerable increase in unemployment over the previous month. Our weighted figures indicate: 21.8 per cent of the membership out of work in December (preliminary figure), 20.1 per cent in November, and 19.5 per cent in October.

8,000,000 Jobless

"On the basis of these reports and reliable Government figures we estimate that between 7,500,000 and 8,000,000 persons were out of work in the United States in December.

"Normally unemployment increases by about 700,000 from December to January, and there is no reason to believe that the increase has been less than usual this year.

"Unemployment at present is probably well over 8,000,000. Never before in the history of our country has unemployment reached such a high figure.

Crisis Comparable to War

"We are in the midst of an unparalleled crisis. Fourteen years ago the American people met the crisis of the World War. We provided for an army of 4,700,000 men.

"We fed them, clothed them, furnished ammunition, transportation, supplies, cared for the wounded and paid every man one dollar a day. We mobilized every resource to meet this great political emergency. Men, women and children felt the urge to give.

"In the war we faced a visible enemy whose forces were concentrated on a battle front.

Disease and Death

"Today we face a hidden enemy lurking silently in millions of scattered homes.

"No newspaper headlines announce the death and disease, the crime and immorality that result from its ravages.

"But the forces of destruction are spreading day by day.

20,000,000 Destitute

"We have an army of over 8,000,000 unemployed; counting their families, over 20,000,000 persons look to the American people for support—over four times the army we maintained in the war.

"Thousands of men and women will go down under the hardships of this winter's crisis.

Children Undernourished

"The tragic feature of this unparalleled unemployment situation is reflected in the undernourished and underfed condition of millions of children living in our larger cities, and particularly in the mining sections and isolated villages. Many of these children are literally starving each day; that is, they do not receive the minimum requirements for physical subsistence.

Slowly Starving

"It is a slow starving process.

"These are the innocent victims of this widespread unemployment situation. Surely their condition ought to appeal to the hearts, sensibilities and the emotions of all classes of people.

Injured for Life

"Starved, underfed and undernourished at a period in life when in order to develop into strong, healthy, virile citizens they ought to receive an abundance of food, the shocking blow which they now receive because of undernourishment and starvation may never be overcome.

"Unless relief is supplied in a large measure, these children are eternally doomed.

Thirty-five Hour Week

"The American Federation of Labor has urged that the available work be so organized as to give everyone at least an opportunity to earn bread.

"The thirty-five hour week universally installed would give work to all.

"If workers are denied jobs they must have bread.

"Broken by undernourishment, despair and defeat, they will never again lead normal, self-respecting lives.

"Many will always be dependent on charity, unable to earn a living.

"The present crisis has none of the glamour of a great political emergency.

"The forces of destruction are more subtle, less obvious.

Nation's Vitality Sapped

"But they are sapping the Nation's vitality, destroying that courage, initiative, self respect which are the foundation of American character.

"Unless we provide for the 20,000,000 in need we shall come out of this crisis a morally and spiritually weakened nation. The deteriorating effect of this widespread suffering is incalculable.

"Shall we give less today than we gave in the war?

Shorter Hours and Federal Relief

"We cannot prevent this disaster unless all employers cooperate to shorten hours and put men to work and government agencies create work.

"Private relief funds are entirely inadequate.

"We must also have generous appropriations from municipal, State and national government funds. Self-respecting American citizens have exhausted their savings, cashed in their insurance, and cannot borrow from the banks. Their backs are to the wall.

"Only immediate action can save the situation.

"The Federation unemployment figures show that unemployment has been steadily at a very high figure this past year.

"Workers' resources are completely exhausted.

"On the average 19 per cent of the union membership has been out of work and at least 19 per cent more on part time.

"Outside trade unions, unemployment has probably been higher."

The A. F. of L. unemployment figures for 1931 referred to by Mr. Green follow:

1931	Total All Trades	Total Bldg. Trades	Total Metal Trades	Total Prtg. Trades	Total All Other Trades
January	19.8	51	28	10	19
February	19.0	52	29	10	17
March	18.1	52	27	11	16
April	17.6	50	29	12	16
May	17.1	48	28	11	15
June	18.2	48	31	12	16
July	18.8	50	32	13	17
August	19.2	51	30	14	16
September	19.4	52	31	14	16
October	19.5	53	31	14	16
November	20.1	54	32	15	18
December	21.8*	59*	35*	15*	20*

* Preliminary.

GOV. HUNT ASKS CITIZENS TO EMPLOY ARIZONA'S IDLE

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 9.—Governor Geo. W. P. Hunt urged citizens of Arizona to inaugurate and push forward all kinds of building improvements to relieve the unemployment situation. He emphasized the low cost of building materials as an element to encourage the work.

"By carrying on such improvements at this time," Governor Hunt said, "you will not only secure these necessary improvements at a smaller outlay, but by employing idle labor you will help to promote business through other channels, and will serve as an agent in helping to improve the financial condition throughout the State."

"A general program," Governor Hunt's appeal concluded, "is being carried on in order to feed those who are hungry, and to best utilize our resources. However, our citizens are not looking for charity, but rather for an opportunity to earn an honest living."

ALAMEDA TIMES-STAR RETURNS TO UNION SHOP

Alameda, Calif., Jan. 9.—The Times-Star composing room is again a union shop, ending the lockout which began in May, 1931. The negotiations returning the paper to union conditions were conducted by the officers of Oakland Typographical Union No. 36 and the Conference of California Typographical Unions.

ROCHESTER PRINTERS GIVE WORK TO IDLE

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 9.—Members of Rochester Typographical Union holding full time jobs resolved to take seven days off between January 3 and April 9 to provide more employment for other printers who depend entirely on extra work for their living.

MINN. LABOR FEDERATION STARTS RADIO PROGRAM

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 9.—The Minnesota State Federation of Labor will inaugurate a broadcasting program on January 16 to acquaint the people of the Northwest with the principles, ideals and problems of Organized Labor.

The broadcasts will continue weekly for thirteen weeks. The Columbia Broadcasting Company donates the time. The State Federation of Labor will furnish the speakers and defray the expenses.

George W. Lawson, secretary of the Federation, believes the radio lectures will be of great advantage to the trade union movement in the Northwestern States.

GUTHRIE CO. WAGE CUT CONDEMNED AS IMMORAL

Minneapolis Veterans of Foreign Wars Ask Fair Wage Settlement of Strike on Government Lock.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 9.—The Hennepin County Council of the Veterans of Foreign Wars denounced the low wages paid by the A. Guthrie Company on the Government lock above Ford Dam, and at Hastings. The dam is a United States War Department project. The employes are on strike against a wage cut imposed by the Guthrie Company.

The resolution adopted by the Council declared the wages are so low as to be "immoral and inconsistent with American fair play and decency," urged the settlement of the strike on the basis of the reinstatement of the strikers at wages paid by the City of Minneapolis for the same classes of work, and demanded that unless the Guthsie Company settled the strike on this basis its contract be cancelled and that it be barred from future Government contracts.

It was stated at the meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars that five men employed in clearing the basin above the Hastings Dam worked an entire week for a wage of $9.80 each. They had to board themselves and pay for transportation to and from work.

Figuring the time required in getting to and from the job, they spent more than 12 hours a day. On this basis the wages were less than 14 cents an hour.